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HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

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SATURDAY, Nov. 12, 2022

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN
CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy. Scattered snow showers, maybe mixing with rain showers in the afternoon.

Tonight: Partly cloudy.

HIGH:39 LOW: 24



Noblesville students welcome Veterans across school district



Noblesville Schools honored Veterans for their sacrifices and service with special programs, patriotic music, thank you notes, poems, class discussions, decorations and more throughout the district. Hazel Dell Elementary School conducted a Veterans Day program Friday morning. See more photos on Page 4 and at ReadTheReporter.com.

Photos provided by Noblesville Schools

Random act of unkindness

I was the victim of a random act of kindness – again.

I had just placed an order for four nuggets and fries (yes, it was my night to cook for my daughter), when the girl opened the drive-thru window and announced, “Your meal is taken care of. That car ahead paid for it.”

I didn’t recognize the car. A mere stranger had picked up the tab. How random. How kind. How exciting. Happily, I put three dollar bills back into my wallet.

The kind driver stuck her head out the window, looked back at me, smiled, and waved. I recognized her. Paige, an acquaintance.

I didn’t recall seeing any social media references about National Pay It Forward Day, so double kudos to Paige for her truly genuine gesture of goodwill.

As a past initiator of random acts of kindness at restaurants, I haven’t had much success. For example, I once bought subs for two soldiers behind me in line at Subway. But before I could pay, two more soldiers arrived so I felt obligated to treat them as well. I assumed since the subs were to be paid by me, the soldiers would order the six-inch variety. Instead they went for the more expensive 12-inchers. I quickly paid with plastic and fled before the rest of the platoon arrived.

And then there was last summer while lost in Illinois that I sought directions from four old guys drinking coffee at a McDonald’s. In return, I dropped a 10-dollar bill on their table, telling them their next round of coffee was on me. They looked shocked. It felt good to do this, so much so I had to keep from skipping too noticeably to my car. But before I could open my door, one of the men, a bit winded, caught up with me. He held out the \$10 and said, “You don’t owe us anything.”

I waved it away. “I want you to have it,” I said.

He was insistent, pushing the bill at me. “We don’t want your money, son.”

See Unkindness . . . Page 2



Community First Bank gives back, serve Veterans & kids in Westfield

The REPORTER

Each year on Veterans Day, Community First Bank of Indiana closes its doors to customers, but its bankers are still hard at work.

It’s an annual tradition for the bank to serve local Veterans by doing outdoor service projects and serving meals. This year, the team in Hamilton County dispersed to rake leaves and wash windows at Veterans’ homes, complete outdoor work at MacGregor Park, and serve the needs of Student Impact of Westfield.

“I absolutely love being given the opportunity to go out into our community on Veterans

Day to give back to our local heroes,” Residential Mortgage Sales Manager Janelle Campbell said. “Veterans, to me, are the epitome of selfless sacrifice, and if they can serve our country and provide me all the freedoms I have as an American, then I am honored to give back to them for a few hours on this day. Thank you to all our veterans for your service. You are appreciated!”

Any Veteran who would like an outdoor service project, or another random act of kindness, completed at their home or business next year is welcome to contact the bank at communication@cfbindiana.com.



Photo provided

Local Veterans continue their service to others



Photo provided by Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank

Hamilton County Harvest (HCH) Food Bank recognizes all its volunteers for the important work they do in serving people in need in their communities. For the Veterans Day holiday, HCH offers special recognition of Mike McCloughan and Larry Hopp. [Click here](#) to listen to what they have to say. Thank you to all Veterans and food bank volunteers. [Click here](#) to donate to HCH Food Bank today.

Hamilton County sues Indiana after veterans couldn’t get benefits for years

By KODY FISHER
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Dozens of people gathered for a 21-gun salute for Veterans Day on Friday outside the Hamilton County Courthouse. They gathered in the shadow of Hamilton County government buildings that represented frustration for many local veterans from 2014-2019.

Hamilton County is suing the director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. County leaders claim the former director didn’t properly manage the county’s veterans services officer, occasionally called the “VSO,” from 2014 to 2019.

Both parties are arguing over whose job it was to manage that employee while hundreds of veterans missed out on VA benefits because that employee didn’t do her job.

Veteran Gina Loy,

Statement from Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs

“IDVA denies the claims made by Hamilton County. The statute cited in the lawsuit has never been interpreted the way Hamilton County prefers. Counties, not the state, have the responsibility for hiring, supervising, evaluating, giving pay raises, and, if needed, firing employees who work in their county veterans offices. Hamilton County discovered problems three years ago, and IDVA went above and beyond to help. IDVA works to support, serve, and advocate for the Indiana veteran community, and it is unfortunate that some veterans’ lives could be adversely affected by the problems that occurred in the veterans office of Hamilton County.”

– Dennis Wimer, director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs

talking about the former director, told I-Team 8, “She never returned calls or emails, so I kind of had to call her out on Facebook and then she eventually emailed me.”

Loy was talking about Lynn Epperson.

The Hamilton County Commissioners in 2014 appointed Epperson as the Hamilton County Veterans Service Officer. Her role was to help veterans file paperwork with the VA so they could receive benefits ranging from \$140 to

\$4,200 a month.

Loy, though, wasn’t the only veteran experiencing issues with Epperson. So did her husband, Rob Loy, who is the commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Noblesville.

Rob said, “For like several years, it seemed like it was nonstop. They were coming in, complaining, ‘Nothing’s happening.’ ‘She’s lost my paperwork again.’”

The post commander says the situation got so bad that the VFW took

See Veterans’ Benefits . . . Page 2

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for a day full
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Photo by Daniel Grose Photography

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SMALL
BUSINESS
SATURDAY

LOVE,
Noblesville

Thank you for reading The Reporter!

UNKINDNESS

from Page 1

The selfish old coot was trying to rob me of my moment, reverse my random act of kindness so he could feel good about himself.

“No, I appreciated your help,” I said, pushing it back.

“That is what neighbors are for,” he said, pushing it back.

If we were neighbors, I wouldn’t have needed to ask you for directions, I wanted to say.

To passersby, it might have seemed like we were in a heated argument. It was almost feeling that way. Finally, I took the \$10 back before we erupted into a random act of fisticuffs. I’m pretty sure I could’ve taken him, but I did worry about his three buddies staring at us through the glass, for two were armed with walkers.

I returned Paige’s wave as the drive-thru girl handed me a bag of free nuggets and fries. It was truly a golden day at the golden arches. All seemed right with the world. That is, until I learned that her random act of kindness was merely momentary.

You see, I found myself caught in the proverbial pay-it-forward trap. Suddenly, I was in the throes of moral dilemma, like when you win a raffle drawing at a fundraiser and feel pressure to forgo the prize and give it to that night’s charity.

“I guess I’m obligated to pay it forward – or in this case, pay it backward,” I said to the drive-thru girl.

I was hoping she might tell me that there was no obligation to replicate her previous customer’s kindness, adding that she sees people break the chain of charity often. Instead, she glared at me from her window perch, her forehead flexing its furl.

“OK. OK. I’ll pay for the car behind me,” I said.

Unfortunately, I said this before looking in the rearview mirror. Behind me was a minivan with a lot of interior movement going on, flashes of too many elbows and hungry faces, the woman in the driver’s seat looking half crazed in her mini-van hell, wishing that maybe birth control had been utilized at least every

other time she dropped her pants.

“You owe 23 (something or another),” the drive-thru girl said.

Just my luck. For about 10 seconds, I was ahead moneywise. But not anymore. My original three dollar bills were useless. We were in the double digits now, which meant a random swipe of the debit card.

Geek, thanks, Paige.

I messaged Paige later to tell her how her random act of kindness had backfired in my face. She seemed amused. She then offered the following advice: Before going forward with a random act of kindness, first find out the meal’s cost.

In other words, you have the option of being kind – but not that kind.

Sure, she tells me this \$23 later.

Someday, I hope to beat Paige to the drive-thru – and pay her back. I’ll make sure to show up with a mini-van-sized hunger.

Contact: scottsaalman@gmail.com Buy Scott’s books on Amazon.

VETERANS’ BENEFITS

from Page 1

matters into its own hands. “We started diverting them (Hamilton County veterans) to other VSOs, like Tipton, Marion County.”

Rob said many were diverted. “This post alone, I’d say at least 100.”

It’s unclear if Hamilton County veterans can get back pay caused by the lapses in paperwork filing from 2014 to 2019. Also, it’s unclear how much money was not paid out to the ignored veterans.

In 2019, county leaders fired Epperson. Hamilton County veterans are now being helped by a new county veterans service officer, who was appointed after Epperson was fired.

Hamilton County is suing the director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs because the county says he didn’t do his job to ensure Epperson was doing hers.

Jody Madeira, an Indiana University law professor, looked at the lawsuit and broke down what it’s asking the court to decide. “They’re seeking a declaration that the director must supervise this employee and ensure that the employee is competently performing their position,” Madeira said.

Madeira added, “It appears to me that although the veterans services officer is paid for by county funds, the officer is probably under the supervision of the director.”

The law professor also says the court’s final decision could have legal ramifications in the future because it could determine who would be liable for damages if a veteran decides to sue.

Gina Loy said that the situation today is much better.

“They immediately – if I email them something or a question – they immediately email me back or they call me.”

I-Team 8 reached out to Epperson by phone and email for a comment about what happened between 2014 and 2019 in her role as the Hamilton County veterans service officer. She hadn’t replied by Friday night.

PREVAIL

Advocating for Victims of Crime & Abuse

I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault - it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County (nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children). Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.

- Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

• Individually packaged snacks

• Lysol

• Hand sanitizer

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Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.

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Westfield has 216 top-notch seniors!



Photos provided by Westfield Washington Schools

Congratulations to the 216 Westfield High School seniors who were recognized for academic excellence at the 25th Evening of Excellence. Chris Denari '79 was the keynote speaker and Larry Simons spoke about the Kim Simons Memorial Scholarship. The Evening of Excellence is an annual event hosted by the Board of School Trustees honoring seniors who completed their junior year with a 3.8 GPA or higher. (Above left) Westfield Washington School Superintendent Dr. Paul Kaiser and Westfield High School Principal Alicia Denniston display the new plaque with this year's 216 seniors recognized at the 25th Evening of Excellence. (Above center) Larry Simons speaking about the Kim Simons Memorial Scholarship. (Above right) Keynote speaker Chris Denari graduated with the Westfield High School Class of 1979.

Hello, Hamilton County!



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Thanks for reading The Reporter!

2022 GIVING TUESDAY

Our 2022 Giving Tuesday Campaign is underway and will extend through December 2nd. Thanks to a generous supporter, George Kristo, all donations will be matched up to \$12,500 so your donation can double in size!

Support our Giving Tuesday campaign today by visiting:
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Since 2009 we have served over 1,400 youth

Westfield Youth Assistance Program advocates for youth ages 3-17 who are facing difficult life circumstances. We collaborate with our community's vast array of talents, services and resources to help empower our youth, parents and caregivers.

Our services are free and voluntary.

Hamilton County thanks its heroes

Patriotic citizens in Noblesville, Carmel & Fishers honor our county's Veterans with ceremony & song



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools
Veterans of all ages enjoyed special treatment for their service during Hazel Dell Elementary's program held Friday morning.



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools
Scores of patriotic youngsters attending Hazel Dell Elementary School gathered to give thanks to local Veterans during their school program Friday.



Photo provided by Tina Mangos
The U.S. Army Field Band performed on Thursday at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel for a free concert celebrating heroes who have served our nation.



Photo provided by Rep. Victoria Spartz's Office / Twitter
Congresswoman Victoria Spartz attended Veterans Day celebrations in Fishers and Noblesville and elsewhere around the Fifth District on Friday.



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools
Children at Hazel Dell Elementary Schools in Noblesville took part in a program honoring Veterans.



Photo provided by Rep. Victoria Spartz's Office / Twitter
On Friday, the City of Fishers welcomed Major General Richard Chegar, U.S. Army (Ret.). MG Chegar spoke about the best people he ever served with. You can watch a recording of Friday's ceremony and presentation on the *Fishers Magazine* Facebook page at [this link](#).

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Noblesville Police collect sweet treats for soldiers



Photo provided
A total of 963.5 pounds of candy was collected by Noblesville Police Department to be sent to soldiers in the U.S. military. Officer Ben Lugar (above right) organized the candy drive in conjunction with Saint Matthew Catholic School in Indianapolis. The candy will be put into homemade stockings and sent to active military members, along with handwritten cards from kids. This is approximately only half of all candy raised, but the Noblesville Police Department alone brought nearly half a ton of candy. Officer Lugar is shown here with K-9 Officer Luna.

Church News

Time to get crafty with
Bethel Lutheran Church

Bethel Lutheran Church will hold a Craft Fair for three days in November:
• Friday, Nov. 18: 4:30 to 7 p.m.
• Saturday, Nov. 19: 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
• Sunday, Nov. 20, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
The Craft Fair will take place at the church, located at 20650 Cumberland Road, Noblesville.

HAM & BEAN DINNER

Saturday, November 12
Serving 4 Thru 7 PM

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All for a Donation to Lions Club.

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OneZone Chamber welcomes Indy Zoo at December luncheon

The REPORTER

Join OneZone Chamber for its December luncheon with the Indianapolis Zoo. Attendees will hear from Indianapolis Zoo President & CEO Dr. Rob Shumaker.

Dr. Shumaker is an evolutionary biologist who specializes in the study of behavior and cognition. He started his career at the Smithsonian National Zoo. During his 20-year tenure there, he worked as an animal keeper, curator, biologist, exhibit designer, and scientist.

Dr. Shumaker has been a faculty member at George Mason University and Drake University, and an affiliate faculty member at Iowa State University. He is an external research associate at the Krasnow Institute and an adjunct professor at Indiana University.

Dr. Shumaker has authored or co-authored numerous scientific publications, books, and articles for the popular press. His most recent book is *Saving*



Endangered Species: Lessons in Wildlife Conservation from Indianapolis Prize Winners. His work has been featured in *National Geographic*, NPR, the Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, PBS, *Time* magazine, and the BBC.

Dr. Shumaker will speak on the future of the Indianapolis Zoo and the impact that it makes on the region. This event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at Ritz Charles.

Registration is required by noon on Tuesday, Nov. 22. The cost is \$40 for members and \$55 for non-mem-

bers. Reservations can be made at OneZoneChamber.com or by calling (317) 436-465.

About OneZone
OneZone Chamber serves as a collective voice to drive solutions for a thriving community. The organization works each day for its members and the community to create a healthy business environment. OneZone continue to strengthen its voice at the state and local level for businesses while creating exclusive access, networking, and leadership opportunities to grow businesses and the people in them.

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*APY is Annual Percentage Yield. APY is effective as of 11/5/2022 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open account and obtain APY is \$1,000.00. Early withdrawal may be subject to penalty. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. Other standard rate maturity terms are available. **Minimum \$25,000 to open account.

Member FDIC

Collective Beauty opens in Westfield



Photo provided by Westfield Chamber of Commerce

Last week, the grand opening of Collective Beauty’s new location in Westfield was celebrated by their staff, the Westfield Chamber, Westfield city officials, and many of Collective Beauty’s clients. Collective Beauty is a premiere salon and spa offering top-of-the-line, exquisite services. The new location is on State Road 32 across from Field Brewing. Learn more at collectivebeautysalonspa.com.

Cutting Edge Countertops aims to build a brighter tomorrow

The REPORTER

For the third year in a row, during the month of October (also Kitchen & Bath month), Cutting Edge Countertops ran a promotion resulting in a \$14,415 donation to Habitat for Humanity.

For every purchase made during the month, Cutting Edge Countertops donated a percentage of the

sales to advance the Habitat for Humanity mission of bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Cutting Edge Countertops operated in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana, including a store in Noblesville located at 14425 Bergen Blvd. That’s just south of Ruoff Music Center.

“We try to make a dif-

ference in all the communities we serve, and it gives us great joy to partner with Habitat for Humanity affiliate organizations,” said Brian Burns, Cutting Edge Countertops’ Co-Owner/Founding Partner. “The need for affordable housing continues to grow along with home repair assistance. There are a lot of people out there that need help. Hab-

itat for Humanity comes through and leaves lasting impacts on families and communities as a whole ... We believe in their purpose and mission, as it aligns with our commitment to be a positive force within the communities we live, work and play in. It’s important to us that our donation be utilized in our service areas to directly help local families.”

The Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity affiliate plans to use the donation it received to help a family in the Habitat for Humanity Homebuyer Program.

The Homebuyer Program provides an opportunity for participants to own their own home with a 0 percent interest mortgage. To qualify for the program, participants apply based on an inadequate current liv-

ing situation, their ability to pay a monthly mortgage and willingness to partner to successfully complete “Sweat Equity” hours. Educational meetings also are included and focus on financial management and home maintenance leading to responsible homeownership.

In addition to stable housing and a great sense of pride, Habitat for Humanity has shown the benefits of the Homebuyer Program for participants and their immediate family as:

- Children of homeowners are 116 percent more likely to graduate from college
- Physical and mental health improve
- A family’s sense of dignity and self-reliance grow
- Wealth accumulation

is possible and a legacy is passed on

This year Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity will complete 23 homes.

“Families aspiring to purchase their first affordable home invite us into their lives to support their dream for the stability, strength, and independence of homeownership,” said Jim Morris, President & CEO of Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity. “We are grateful for the generous support of Cutting Edge Countertops to support Habitat’s mission and our partner families in Greater Indy and in the communities where they are located.”

Learn more about Cutting Edge Countertops at cdctops.com. Donate to Habitat for Humanity at habitat.org.

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www.westfieldplayhouse.org

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Caring for caregivers

According to the [Caregiving in the U.S. 2020 report](#) published by the National Alliance for Caregiving and the AARP Public Policy Institute, 53 million people in the U.S. are providing unpaid care for relatives and friends, and that number continues to grow rapidly.

However, few of these people actually identify themselves as a true caregiver. According to [Johns Hopkins Medicine](#), a caregiver is a person who tends to the needs or concerns of a person with short- or long-term limitations due to illness, injury or disability.

Rosalynn Carter, former first lady of the U.S., put the importance of caregivers into perspective when she said, “There are only four kinds of people in this world: those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers and those who will need caregivers. Caregiving is universal.”

Despite the universal need for caregivers, an issue that we often see is that they don’t take the time to care for themselves. This could be due to multiple reasons, but usually, they start to ignore their own health because they don’t have the capacity to prioritize themselves while they’re busy caring for another person. November marks National Family Caregivers Month, making now the perfect time to remind the public to honor and support family caregivers.

Our mission at CareSource is to make a lasting difference in our members’ lives, and part of that work includes making sure we are supportive of the individuals who take care of our members.

Barriers caregivers face

As a caregiver, you can be susceptible to a lot of stress. While balancing your own life, you are also tasked with the responsibility of managing someone else’s.

A recent survey we conducted revealed that many caregivers do not receive proper health care, don’t attend doctor visits as often as they should, and will often ignore their needs when it comes to their own health and well-being. The healthier the caregiver, the healthier the person they care for will be. This also includes taking care of caregivers’ mental health. As a caregiver’s mental and emotional health declines, this will inadvertently impact the health of the loved one they’re supporting.

Many people have assumptions about caregivers, like they chose the role because they have extra time or that their own needs have been met because they are caring for someone else. However, this is rarely the case when it comes to caregiving. They may not always ask for the help they need, but there is no denying that supporting those that support others is crucial.

Economic impact of caregiver support

According to a report by the [National Library of Medicine](#), family caregiving can lead to an overall improvement in health and a reduction in health care costs. Caregiving can serve as a replacement for formal health care services and their associated costs. It has been shown to also reduce nursing home use and hospitalizations and create lower rates of home health utilization.

A report from the [AARP Public Policy Institute](#) estimates that in 2017, family caregivers provided a collective 34 billion hours of care to adults and an equivalent of approximately \$470 billion in unpaid assistance. However, it’s important to note that estimating direct replacement costs is complex because not all caregiver roles are alike. Regardless of their role, this data demonstrates the need to prioritize caregiver support.



GUEST COLUMNIST
STEVE SMITHERMAN

How to support a caregiver

The role of a caregiver can vary as it depends on the needs of the person who requires care. Therefore, the manner in which support is provided to the caregiver will vary as well and must be tailored to their specific needs.

For example, new mothers are considered caregivers because they are taking care of their baby full-time until the child can care for themselves. Another form of caregiving is providing assistance to the elderly.

Over the past few years, I have taken a more active role in being a caregiver for my aging mother. This personal experience has not only highlighted the needs of caregivers, but it has ignited a passion in me to support other families stepping into similar roles.

For a new mom, you can show support by connecting them with resources offering postpartum care as this can help minimize the risk of postpartum depression. For example, the Indiana Department of Health offers the [MOMS Helpline](#), committed to improving pregnant women’s access to early and regular prenatal care and connecting them with a network of child health care services within their local communities after their pregnancy.

For someone who is caring for an elderly parent, it may mean the world to them if you offer to sit with their loved one while the caregiver takes a break to experience something that brings them joy, improving their mental health.

Our job at CareSource is to find out how to connect caregivers with the proper resources to best meet the needs of the people they care for while also meeting their own needs.

Resources for the caregiver

There are various support services and resources caregivers can utilize, including the [Caregiver Action Network](#), the nation’s leading family caregiver organization, and the [Central Indiana Area Agency on Aging \(CICOA\)](#), providing aging and in-home solutions for Central Indiana. Caregivers can also use services like [Joy’s House](#), an organization that serves adults living with life-altering diagnoses and their families by providing adult day and caregiver services.

At CareSource, we plan to create caregiver advisory councils to uncover what these individuals need in order to care for others and for themselves and how we, as a health plan, can address those needs. Our Life Services program also has a specific branch that helps families work through any barriers they may be facing and connects them with the proper resources.

As the need for caregivers continues to grow, we plan to support that growth by prioritizing the people behind this care.

Steve Smitherman serves as the President of CareSource Indiana.

Scouts learn first aid from Noblesville first responder



Photo provided by Noblesville Fire Department / Facebook
The Noblesville Fire Department thanks Cub Scout Pack 114 for inviting Captain Anson Herrington to the pack meeting at Noble Creek Elementary. They discussed first aid and how to handle an emergency.

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Thousands of children have sat on Santa's lap since Richard Zeiss built the first Santa House on the Hamilton County Courthouse Square in 1963.

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Member FDIC

Ben Lehman elected to Heights school board

The REPORTER
“I feel very blessed and humbled.”

That’s what Ben Lehman said after his election win Tuesday night.

“I am also extremely grateful for all the supporters who helped secure the White River Township seat on the Hamilton Heights School Board,” Lehman said.

Lehman steps into the seat held by Doug Ozolins for the past eight years.

Lehman is a lifelong resident of Hamilton County and is a CPA and part owner of Lehman and Company in Noblesville. He has always had a heart for serving, his family, his church, his community, and his clients. He is the treasurer for Victory Chapel Community Church and the 50 Club of Hamilton County and is a board member of Hamilton County Extension Board as well as the co-commissioner for the Hamilton Heights Youth Football League. He has served as a 4-H volunteer for 17 years, while serving as Swine Barn superintendent for eight years giving back after his 10-year 4-H career. He has been a baseball, basketball, soccer, and football coach for his children’s teams.

“Ben Lehman joins an exceptional and seasoned team of public education advocates,” Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood said. “He is excited and enthusiastic to serve. Moreover, Ben is deeply invested in the community,



Photo provided

Ben Lehman is the first Hamilton Heights graduate of this century to be elected to the board. He will begin his first term in January 2023. The Lehman family includes (from left) Audrey, Caleb (Hamilton Heights Class of 2033), Faith (Hamilton Heights Class of 2030), and Ben.

wants to learn, and make impactful contributions in this role. I believe he will use his energy, experience, and time to make Hamilton Heights an even better place for students to learn and achieve.”

Dr. Arrowood thanked Ozolins for his service to the school district.

“We are extremely grateful to Doug Ozolins for the many contributions he made at the district,

community, and state level during his tenure,” Dr. Arrowood said. “He has left a legacy that will continue to positively impact our students well into the future. We know Doug will be involved through other roles to continue to make a difference at Heights.”

Lehman said he is looking forward to taking his career knowledge, volunteer experience, and service-oriented heart to

make Hamilton Heights the best it can be.

“I want to serve as a strong liaison between the kids, parents, teachers, staff, and property owners of this great community,” he noted.

In addition to Lehman, Hamilton Heights’ five-member school board consists of Dr. Kevin Cavanaugh, Arnett Cooper, Julie Davis, and Gretchen Pennington.

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Clay Township Impact Program leaves legacy with Carmel Parks renovations

Six reimagined parks now open for the public to enjoy

The REPORTER

In 2019, **Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation** (CCPR) received a \$20 million investment from the **Clay Township Impact Program** (CTIP). With this investment, CCPR launched its **Reimagining Parks** initiative which included the renovation of six existing parks throughout Carmel and Clay Township. In fall 2022, CCPR reopened the final reimagined park for the public to enjoy.

"We are incredibly grate-

ful for the funding provided by the Clay Township Impact Program and the work that the Clay Township Board, the Park Board, and the Carmel Clay Parks team put into reimagining our parks," said Rich Taylor, President of the Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation. "The updates made to the parks reiterate our dedication to listening to our community's needs and developing world-class park experiences for our community."

CTIP was launched

by Clay Township Trustee Doug Callahan and Township Board Members Mary Eckard, Paul Hensel, and Matt Snyder to improve the community with a focus on parks and public safety. The CTIP investment allowed CCPR to enhance Carey Grove, Flowing Well, Lawrence W. Inlow, Meadowlark, River Heritage, and West Park. The park enhancements not only created exciting new play opportunities for all ages and abilities but also left a legacy for the

importance of quality outdoor recreation in the community.

Each park project included input from community leaders, stakeholders, community organizations, the public, and more. CCPR is proud to have worked with industry leaders in playground manufacturing, architecture, and landscaping at each reimagined park.

The city's updated parks include:

• **Carey Grove Park:** impact included a new

playground, year-round restrooms, a larger parking lot, and trails

• **Flowing Well Park:** impact included Cool Creek bank stabilization, year-round restrooms, a larger parking lot, trails, and interpretive signage

• **Lawrence W. Inlow Park:** impact included a new splash pad, two pickleball courts, picnic shelters, year-round restrooms, and expanded parking

• **Meadowlark Park:** impact included a new

playground, year-round restrooms, two shelters, a larger parking lot, four pickleball courts, a wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, an accessible boardwalk, and interpretive signage

• **River Heritage Park:** impact included new playgrounds with a focus on accessible play, accessible trails, and White River overlooks

• **West Park:** impact included a new playground, splash pad, year-round restrooms, and shelters

Flu season could impact Red Cross blood supply

Healthy donors needed to give now

The REPORTER

The American Red Cross urges blood and platelet donors to give now and help fight the potential impact of seasonal illnesses and a potentially severe flu season on the blood supply.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicts a serious spread of flu this year and is already reporting an early spike in cases in several states. When seasonal illnesses increase, the number of healthy donors tends to decrease, leaving the Red Cross blood supply vulnerable to a potential shortage over the holidays.

Paired with busy holiday schedules, seasonal illnesses may make it harder to collect the blood hospital patients require this winter. Donors – especially those with type O blood and those giving platelets – can help bolster the blood supply now by making an appointment to give in the coming weeks.

There is no waiting period to donate blood or platelets after receiving a flu shot. Schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Learn more about flu safety and prevention at redcross.org/flu.

org/flu.

As a thank-you, the Red Cross is offering several opportunities to donors this month:

• All who come to give now through Nov. 22 will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Details are available at rbcblood.org/perks.

• Those who come to give over the Thanksgiving holiday, Nov. 23 to 27, will get a Red Cross knit beanie, while supplies last.

• All who come out to help Nov. 28 to Dec. 15 will receive a \$10 Amazon Gift Card by email, thanks to Amazon. Details are available at rbcblood.org/together.

How to donate blood
Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients.

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh

at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Amplify your impact – volunteer!

Another way to support the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross is to become a volunteer blood donor ambassador at Red Cross blood drives. Blood donor ambassadors help greet, check-in and thank blood donors to ensure they have a positive donation experience.

Volunteers can also serve as transportation specialists, playing a vital role in ensuring lifesaving blood products are delivered to nearby hospitals. For more information and to apply for either position, contact 1-888-684-1441 or visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

Study says common drug could cause heart damage if taken at night

By Dr. MARY GILLIS, D.Ed.
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A common drug given to patients before surgery may cause heart damage depending on the time it's taken, a new study suggests.

Midozolam (brand name Versed, Dormicum, others) is given to patients to ease their anxiety before an operation, but scientists at the University of Colo-

rado found it may do more harm than good.

Over 16,000 patients were given the drug before undergoing nighttime surgery. Study findings showed patients given the medication released higher levels of GABA, a chemical that inhibits the brain's calming effect. Higher levels of GABA can suppress the cardioprotective gene, PER2.

"We performed a large dataset analysis and demon-

strated that administering is associated with an increased risk of myocardial injury in non-cardiac surgery when surgeries occurred at night and in healthier patients," lead author Dr. Tobias Eckle said in a [news release](http://news). "This is significant because these findings could have tremendous implications for patient mortality."

The study was published in the journal *Frontiers of Cardiovascular Medicine*.



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Next Mental Health First Aid training set for Nov. 15

The REPORTER

Invest Hamilton County, in partnership with OneZone, Noblesville, and Westfield Chambers of Commerce, will hold its next quarterly Mental Health First Aid training focused on employers throughout Hamilton County.

The event is set for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Hamilton County Community Foundation – Collaboration Hub,

11810 Technology Drive, Fishers.

Typically, this training costs at least \$250 to \$400 per person, but thanks to support from the Hamilton County Council and Commissioners via the ARPA Committee, this training will only cost \$40 per person (includes materials and lunch) throughout 2022 and 2023. Mental Health America of Indiana will conduct training.

The next program will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19 at The Bridgewater Club, 3535 E. 161st St.

Click here to register.
Why mental health first aid matters

Mental Health First Aid teaches you to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. This eight-hour training gives you the skills you need to reach out, provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem, and help connect them to appropriate care.

- What it covers**
- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness
 - Common signs and symptoms of substance use
 - How to interact with a

- person in crisis
- How to connect the person with help
 - How to administer naloxone in the event of an opioid overdose

The course will teach you how to apply the ALGEE Action Plan:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen nonjudgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

With the current state of affairs and society's growing openness to discussing mental health, all of the Chambers in Hamilton County believe that this will become a staple program offered for years to come.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:16-18 (NIV)

Kaitlin Elizabeth Kilgore

July 14, 2010 – November 10, 2022

Kaitlin Elizabeth Kilgore, 12, Fishers, passed away on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at St. Vincent in Indianapolis. She was born on July 14, 2010, to Kyle and Jennifer (Bennett) Kilgore in Carmel.

Kaitlin loved school and was a seventh grader at Riverside Jr. High School in Fishers. She liked bowling, swimming, and going to the beach with Team Bobby. Most of all, Kaitlin

loved being home with her family, snuggling together and watching movies.

She is survived by her parents, Kyle and Jennifer Kilgore; sister, Abbie Kilgore; family dog, Bailie; grandmothers, Anne Bennett, Darlene Kilgore, and Jennifer (Kevin) Wall; aunts and uncles, Jason & Liz Clevenger, Emily & Glen Todd, and Sara Kealy; as well as several cousins.

Kaitlin was preceded in death by her grandfathers, Larry Bennett and Russell Kilgore.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Children's Theraplay, 9919 Towne Road, Carmel, IN 46032 ([childrenstheraplay.org/donate](https://www.childrenstheraplay.org/donate)).

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](https://www.randallroberts.com)

David L. Sharp

June 21, 1940 – November 4, 2022

David L. Sharp, 82, Carmel, passed away peacefully on November 4, 2022. He was born June 21, 1940, in Detroit, Mich. He moved to Carmel in 1970 to raise his family.

David was a family man whose life revolved around his family and grandchildren. He touched many lives and each of you was considered very special to him. David felt very blessed for everyone who was a part of his life. He is now rejoicing with his wife, and the many family and friends who are gone before him.

In addition to his parents, David was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Eileen Sharp; and brother, Bill Sharp.

Survivors include his loving, longtime companion, Karen Alford; children, David (Lori) Sharp, Laura (Ed) Sharp Komisarick, Mary Beth Sharp, and Terry (Dennis) Sharp; grandchildren, Jimmy, Sean, John Henry, Audrey (Derek), Josh and Ava.

A Celebration of Life will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2022, at Bussell Family Funerals, 1621 E. Greyhound Pass, Carmel, with the service beginning at 3 p.m.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family. Condolences: [bussellfamilyfunerals.com](https://www.bussellfamilyfunerals.com)



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Donna Bussell



Employment Opportunity

The Town of Sheridan, Indiana is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Street Superintendent. This position is a department head level position comprised of several upper-level management and leadership duties. Candidates should have knowledge, skill, and experience in leading, planning, controlling, and managing operations of municipal streets and public works.

The full job description is available at www.sheridan.org

The Town of Sheridan offers benefits of health, vision, and dental insurances along with pension and deferred compensation retirement programs.

The salary range for this position is \$56,000 to \$58,000.

Interested applicants can submit a cover letter and resume to tburtron@taftlaw.com or via United State Postal Service to Town of Sheridan, 506 South Main Street, Sheridan, Indiana 46069

Attn: Street Department job posting.

Please submit resumes no later than close of business on Friday, December 2, 2022.

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High School Football Regional Championships

Undefeated Royals rock regional

Southeastern shuts out Shamrocks, gets first championship in 17 years

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

FISHERS – Hamilton Southeastern sprinted to its first regional championship in 17 years on Friday.

Playing dominant football on both sides, the Class 6A No. 1 Royals beat No. 9 Westfield 20-0 to claim the Regional 2 trophy at TCU Field. It was the first regional title for Southeastern since 2005 and its fifth in program history, and kept the Royals unbeaten for the season at 12-0.

“They played inspired football,” said HSE coach Michael Kelly. “They flew around. Our defense was phenomenal. Offensive line helped control the line of scrimmage. Our running backs ran really hard.”

The game got off to a slow start, with the defenses controlling the field during the first quarter. The Royals forced Westfield to punt on its first series, then the Shamrocks got a turnover on downs to stop Southeastern’s first run. Westfield took its second drive into Royals territory, but that ended when HSE’s Mason Alexander intercepted a pass near the end zone.

“Honestly, I’ll have to give it to Coach Kelly,” said Alexander. “He gives us inspirational speeches telling us we can do anything we can, as long as we put our minds to it.”

Alexander also said that the Royals are told not to be scared of any other team.

“Everybody gets nervous before a game, but breathe in and out twice,” said Alexander. “As soon as that ball’s kicked off, it all goes away.”

Southeastern got its first scoring drive together in the second quarter, a nearly five and a half minute march down to the Shamrocks’ nine-yard line. While Southeastern had to settle for a field goal – a 26-yard kick from Carter Gutt – it got the Royals on the board. They led 3-0 at halftime.

It seemed like a big play was imminent, and it came from Jalen Alexander. The

junior running back had been steadily gaining yards during the first half, but he finally let loose for a 73-yard touchdown run in only the third play of the second half. A Gutt kick gave the Royals a 10-0 lead.

“It wasn’t just me,” said Jalen Alexander. “It was all my guys up front.”

Alexander gave credit to several linemen: Styles Prescod, Teddy Johnson, Alex Boothby, Kyle Young (“He’s really stepped up, I’m super proud of him,” said Alexander), Colin Krekler and Jack Osiecki at the tight end spot.

“They’re all just good dudes, man,” said Jalen Alexander. “Since week one, they’ve improved so much. I’m happy with where we are. We’re only getting better every week.”

The Royals’ offense seemed to get better as this game went on as well. Gutt kicked another field goal late in the third quarter, this one from 30 yards to get Southeastern up 13-0.

In the fourth quarter, the Royals used another long drive to score one more touchdown. Jalen Alexander struck again, running in from seven yards. Alexander finished the game with 248 yards rushing.

Southeastern held Westfield to 107 yards of total offense. The Shamrocks played as well as they could, but were frustrated the entire game by the Royals’ defense. Kendall Garnett led the rushing with 52 yards, while quarterback Cole Ballard went 6-of-13 for 49 yards.

“I’m still proud of them,” said Westfield coach Jake Gilbert. The Shamrocks finished the season 8-4, improving greatly from the midpoint of the season when they were 3-3.

“We just got to work,” said Gilbert. “We had a great last six weeks. Tremendous practices. We had won five in a row, we won a sectional.”

The Royals will play for the 6A north semi-state next Friday at Fort Wayne Carroll.



Photos by Joshua Herd

(Top) Hamilton Southeastern’s Mason Alexander (15) made a big interception for the Royals in the first quarter. (Above) Hamilton Southeastern’s Jalen Alexander (24) scored two touchdowns and rushed for over 240 yards during the Royals’ Regional 2 championship win over Westfield on Friday.



Photo by Joshua Herd

Westfield quarterback Cole Ballard (1) hands off to Kendall Garnett (8).

HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 20, WESTFIELD 0

Score by Quarters					Scoring	
Westfield	0	0	0	0-0	Second Quarter	
Southeastern	0	3	10	7-20	HSE, 4:06 – Carter Gutt	
Team Stats	WF	HSE			26-yard field goal	
First Downs	8	18			Third Quarter	
By Rush	5	16			HSE, 10:32 – Jalen	
By Pass	3	2			Alexander 73-yard run	
By Penalty	0	0			(Gutt kick)	
Rushes-Yards	26-58	53-354			HSE, 3:07 – Gutt 30-yard	
Yards Passing	49	36			field goal	
Comp-Att-Int-TD	6-13-0-1	4-8-0-0			Fourth Quarter	
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	0-0			HSE, 3:08 – Alexander	
Penalties-Yards	2-15	3-25			7-yard run (Gutt kick)	
Punts-Average	4-41.3	3-25.0				

Westfield individual stats

Rushing: Kendall Garnett 19-52, Cole Ballard 7-6.
Passing: Ballard 6-13-49.
Receiving: Gabe Arambales 4-27, Max Nosler 1-16, Andrew Lieske 1-6.

Southeastern individual stats

Rushing: Alexander 30-248, Azariah Wallace 13-55, Clayton Wilke 7-33, Sam Forrest 1-12, Ty Bradle 2-6.
Passing: Bradle 4-8-36.
Receiving: Clayton Wilke 2-15, Jack Osiecki 1-14, Donovan Hamilton 1-7.

Correction

The name of David Ayers, a Fishers resident and Cathedral student who committed to play baseball at Butler University, was misspelled in the photo caption in Friday’s edition. The Reporter apologizes for the error.

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7:30 pm - Varsity Lawrence North at Noblesville

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Sheridan finishes the season at 11-2 with a Sectional 45 championship and the Hoosier Heartland Conference championship. The team will graduate eight seniors, including one of the state's best running backs in Peyton Cross (2,082 yards rushing and 28 touchdowns).

John Harrell's Indiana High School Football

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CLASS 6A

Carroll (Fort Wayne) 21, Lafayette Jeff 20
Hamilton Southeastern 20, Westfield 0
Indianapolis Cathedral 14, Brownsburg 7
Center Grove 42, Warren Central 32

CLASS 5A

Valparaiso 15, Merrillville 14
Fort Wayne Snider 41, Mishawaka 27
Whiteland 49, Plainfield 14
Castle 31, Bloomington South 14

CLASS 4A

New Prairie 55, Northridge 7
Kokomo 42, Columbia City 13
Indianapolis Roncalli 20, New Palestine 7
East Central 35, Evansville Memorial 21

CLASS 3A

West Lafayette 55, Knox 14
Indianapolis Chatard 42, Yorktown 14
Monrovia 26, Owen Valley 21

CLASS 2A

Andrean 30, Lafayette Central Catholic 12
Fort Wayne Luers 35, Bluffton 6
Linton-Stockton 60, Lapel 24
Evansville Mater Dei 35, Triton Central 28

CLASS 1A

North Judson 49, Park Tudor 13
Adams Central 35, Carroll (Flora) 0
North Decatur 29, Sheridan 14
Indianapolis Lutheran 49, Providence 7

Basketball

Millers' defense too much for Huskies in all-county game

By **CRAIG ADKINS**
For The Reporter

ARCADIA – It was a patriotically festive atmosphere prior to the start of Friday night's all-county girls basketball game between Noblesville and Hamilton Heights at the Husky Dome in Arcadia. It was Veterans Day and members of the Cicero V.F.W. presented the colors for the Star-Spangled Banner and all veterans in attendance were honored before tipoff.

On the court, the Millers and Huskies met for the 35th time in girls basketball. Noblesville would make the short trip back south with a victory over Hamilton Heights, 49-38.

The Millers got off to an early 4-0 lead with quick baskets from Meredith Tippner and Ava Shoemaker.

Heights quickly cut it to one with a foul on Kaitlyn Shoemaker. Kaylee Rhoton was fouled in the left corner on a three-point attempt and sank all three to make it 4-3.

"Noblesville is obviously really good and in our prep up to tonight, we had prepared for their 1-3-1 and we started to have some success. We had some great looks early that didn't go down. Who knows, if those drop, they switch defenses earlier," said Hamilton Heights head coach Keegan Cherry on his team's good start against Noblesville.

Kaitlyn Shoemaker and Dani Mendez helped jump the lead to 8-5. The Huskies tied the game 8-8 with 1:18 left in the first on a Katie Brown three.

"This time of the year, most games are pretty close early on. Most teams are trying to feel each other out and adjust and get going. Our kids did a good job.



(Above left) Hamilton Heights' Kassidy Schakel (right) looks to the basket as Noblesville's Reagyn Wilson defends. (Above right) Noblesville's Ava Shoemaker (right) scored 11 points for the Millers during their win at Hamilton Heights on Friday. Pictured at left is the Huskies' Hadleigh Cherry.

We went into our 3-2 (defense) and that really bothered them," said Noblesville head coach Donna Buckley on her team responding to the Huskies' early pressure.

The Millers sped up the tempo early in the second. Freshman C.C. Quigley opened the quarter with a 14-foot jumper. Ava Shoemaker followed with a three from the right corner for 13-8.

After that, the Millers went on a 14-5 run to end the first half with a 27-13 score after two quarters.

"We have a lot of kids that can score. Heights is going to take as much time as they can off the clock. They are going to be methodical and try to control the tempo.

It was a slower-paced game and we have a lot of kids who can score and contribute offensively. We're a really balanced team," stated Buckley on her team's selfless offensive approach and how they reacted to the Huskies' attempt at controlling the tempo.

Noblesville kept pushing it in the third on both ends of the floor. Early on Ava Shoemaker knocked down a pair of threes, both in the left corner. Ultimately, it was the Millers' speed on defense that created offensive opportunities and they would find themselves up 43-21 through three.

"Ava gave us some great offense. Tipp got going

and Reagan hit a big three. There's just a lot of different kids that can score for us," Buckley continued on how it doesn't matter who scores for the Millers.

The fourth quarter belonged to the Huskies. Camryn Runner showed just why she is a player that will catch the eye of many this season. The junior guard made her presence known, scoring 10 of the Heights 17 in the quarter, but more importantly showed the home crowd what they have to look forward to this season.

"I felt like we were starting to get it figured out. We went to some rover action and overloaded the baseline. Our girls were starting to

figure it out, but we just ran out of time," stated Cherry on his team's push in the fourth that was too late.

The Huskies were able to outscore the Millers 17-6 in the final quarter, but that still would not be enough as Noblesville grabbed their second win of the season, 49-38.

"I couldn't be more proud of every one of them. They represented our school and program in fine fashion tonight. Unfortunately, we got beat tonight and we learned from this game tonight," stated Cherry on how proud he was of his team's effort in the loss.

Hamilton Heights was led by junior guard Camryn

Runner with her game-high 18 points that led all scorers. Kaylee Rhoton also chipped in with nine.

The 3A No. 6 Huskies (3-1) hit the road on Saturday night at Jay County (1-0), who were winners in their opener on November 10, 74-20 over Fort Wayne South.

The Millers were led again by Meredith Tippner, who finished with 16 points and another great night on the boards with 16 rebounds. Ava Shoemaker joined her in double figures with 11.

Class 4A second-ranked Noblesville (2-0) finishes its weekend with a home game on Saturday with the Lawrence North Wildcats (2-1).

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 12
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Greenfield-Central at Guerin Catholic, 12:30 p.m.
Lawrence Central at Westfield, 1:30 p.m.
Carmel at Huntington North, 2:30 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Jay County, 7:30 p.m.
Lawrence North at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.
Fishers-HSE Classic
Columbus East at Fishers, 11:30 a.m.
Elkhart at Hamilton Southeastern, 11:30 a.m.
Columbus East at Hamilton Southeastern, 5:30 p.m.
Elkhart at Fishers, 5:30 p.m.
Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.

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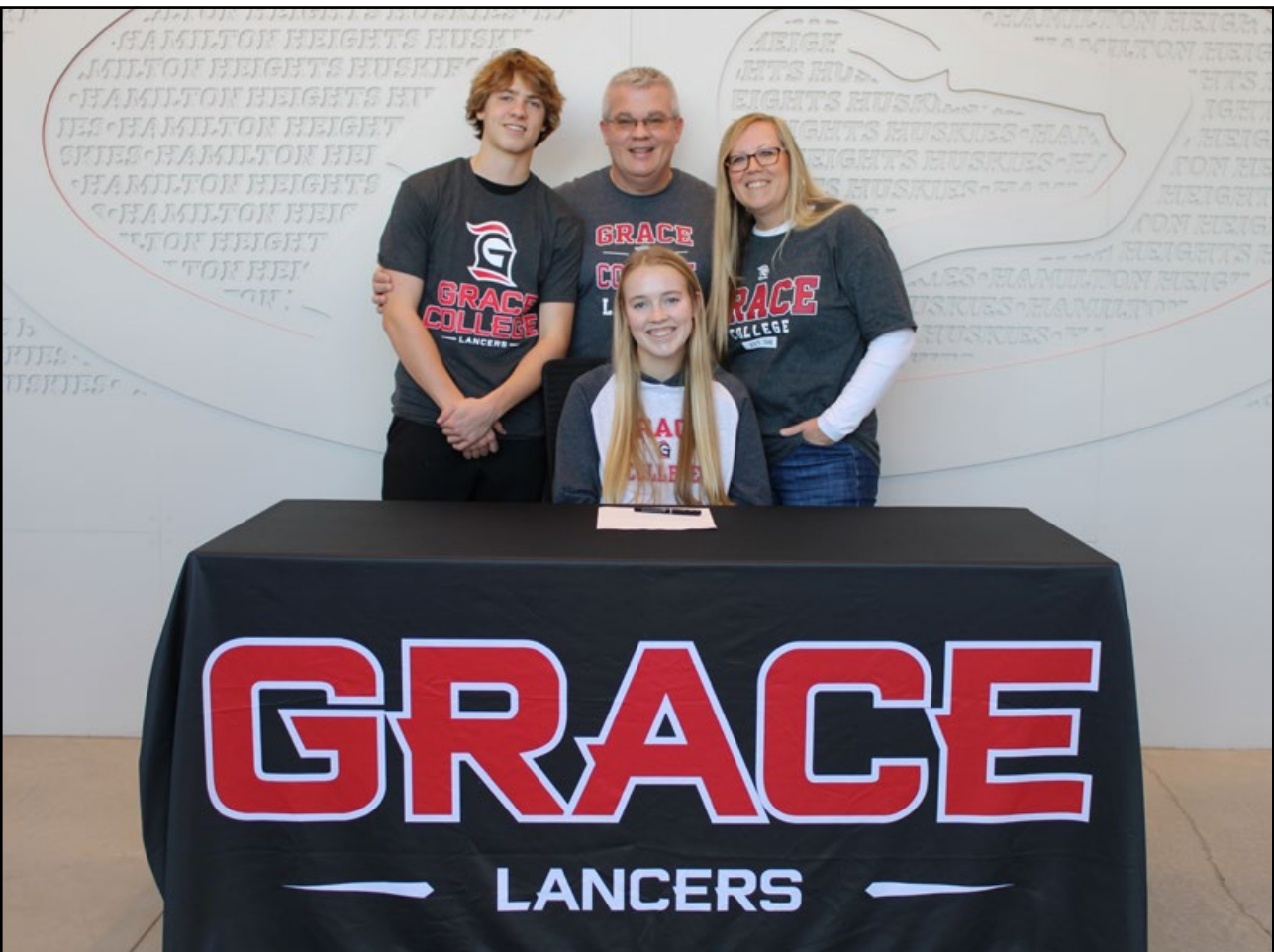


Photo provided
Hamilton Heights senior Cassidy Felger has signed a letter of intent to play soccer for Grace College at Winona Lake, Ind., where they build champions of character. Felger (seated) is pictured with her brother Carson and parents Chris and Shelley.

Heights' Cassidy Felger signs to play soccer at Grace College

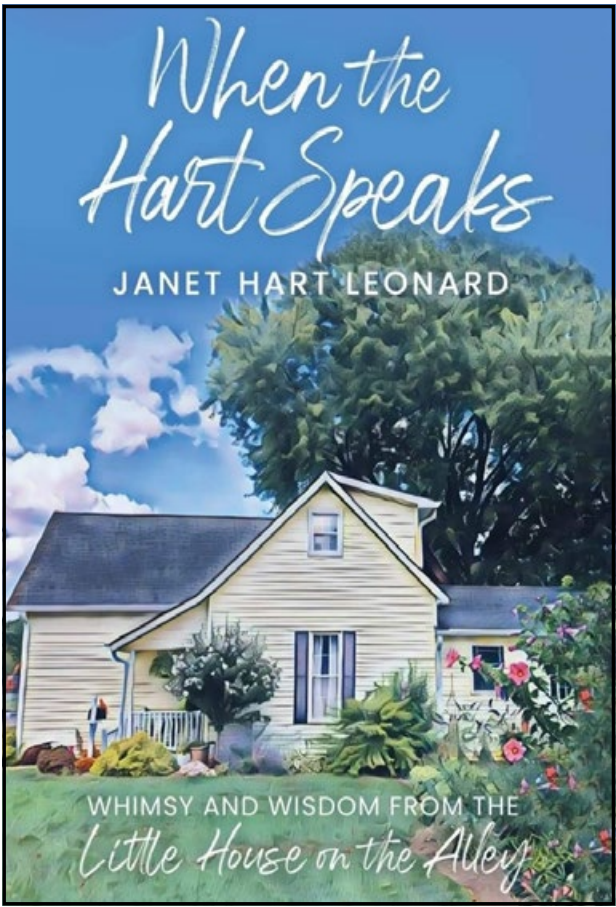
The REPORTER
Hamilton Heights senior Cassidy Felger has signed a letter of intent to play soccer for the Grace College Lancers this fall. Grace College is a member of the Crossroads League and a NAIA athletic institution. She is the daughter of Chris and Shelley Felger.
Grace College was Felger's college of choice to continue her education and play soccer at the collegiate level. Felger said it was the small, Christ-centered college atmosphere, commitment to education and strong girls' soccer program that drew her to Grace College.
Felger, who played soccer and ran for Unified Track, found success and

recognition in the classroom and on the field. As an athlete she was recognized twice as the Soccer Offensive Player of the Year and named twice to the All-Conference team. She was named a Soccer MVP and a member of the All-County, Academic All-State, and Academic All-Conference teams. She also served as captain for the Hamilton Heights Soccer and Unified Track teams.
She holds a 4.132 grade-point average, is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Government, Business Professionals of America (BPA), Bring Change 2 Mind, Huskies for the Cross, Husky Ambassadors, and French Club.
She is also a member of her church's worship team and youth group.
Felger has been playing soccer since middle school and developing her agility, strength, and skill set playing club soccer during the off season. She credits her family, teammates, and coaches Travis Kauffman and Bryan Michel as a major influence in her athletic development over the years.
"Cassidy has been a tremendous asset to the girls' soccer program both for the talent she brought to the field and also to the team's unity, attitude, and expectations," Heights Girls Soccer Head Coach Travis Kauffman said. "She has been a four-year varsity starter, two-year captain, and has earned a multitude of awards and recognitions from the team, the county, and the Indiana Soccer Coaches Association. She has been our on-field leader helping control the game and providing

encouragement and direction. Beyond the many accomplishments, Cassidy's presence has been felt even more significantly as she helped build a positive and successful legacy for the soccer program. Cassidy's humble and selfless leadership has been infectious and has been a wonderful thing to witness over the last four years. Cassidy's absence, as she continues to pursue excellence at Grace College, will be greatly missed."
"Cassidy has been a phenomenal leader on and off the field for the Girls Soccer program," Heights Athletic Director Kurt Ogden said. "She is the prototypical athlete that any coach would love to have on their team. She's the hardest worker in practices and in games, she just delivers, night in and night out. We are really going to miss her presence on the field next year. We wish her well as she continues her career at Grace College."

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www.JanetHartLeonard.com



Sogility partners with Noblesville United Soccer Club

The REPORTER
Noblesville United Soccer Club (NUSC) and Sogility have announced a partnership to help continue the development of NUSC players in a unique and exciting environment.
Sogility is a soccer training center based in Westfield utilizing world-class training technology used by large clubs like FC Barcelona and Manchester City. This center is perfect for players who want to improve their technical skills in dribbling, touch, passing, and shooting.
"Noblesville United Soccer Club (NUSC) is geared toward the soccer player that wants to enjoy and learn the game of soccer while having fun, which aligns perfectly with our goals at Sogility," Sogility CEO Jimmy Carson said.
"We're excited for the opportunities this partnership will provide our players and families," Programs Director Brent Henderson said. "Like Sogility, Noblesville United aims to provide soccer experiences that are both fun and developmental."
Looking to take your game to the next level this offseason? Visit sogility.net to see what Sogility has to offer.
Sogility's mission is to increase soccer players' skills, confidence, and physical development with personalized training through the use of technology and individualized data monitoring.

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